



# NEWS RELEASE

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### ***10 REGIONAL MINORITY FIRMS TO GET SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS AT MED WEEK 2001 CONFERENCE***

**WASHINGTON** – Ten outstanding minority-owned businesses are slated to receive the U.S. Small Business Administration's prestigious Minority Small Business Persons of the Year awards for their superior business achievements.

These awards will be presented during the 19<sup>th</sup> National Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week conference, held in conjunction with the Department of Commerce September 23-26, 2001, in Washington, D.C.

The award winners from across the country have businesses ranging from aerospace engineering to janitorial services and asphalt paving and maintenance (see page 2 for a complete list).

One of the 10 regional winners will be named National Minority Small Business Person of the Year during the MED Week conference. Other national awards to be announced during the conference include: the SBA Administrator's Leadership award, the 8(a) Graduate Firm of the Year award and the first and second runner up for the 8(a) Graduate Firm of the Year awards.

President Bush has declared the week of September 23 as MED Week. In his proclamation, the President urged all Americans to join together in honoring minority entrepreneurs across the country in appropriate observances.

**"The SBA recognizes the important role that minority businesses play in job creation and economic development in their communities,"** SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto said. **"MED Week celebrates and recognizes those successful business owners who contribute significantly to our nation's economy and work force. This conference will equip potential business owners with the tools necessary to become successful entrepreneurs."**

The MED Week Conference will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. The theme is *"Strategies for Growth in the American Economy."* Conference topics include: a special presentation by Alvin Toffler, author of *Future Shock*, and financial strategies for the minority marketplace. The conference will also provide opportunities to network at the MED Week 2001 Business Expo. There will also be award ceremonies to honor minority entrepreneurs, minority business advocates and leaders in the corporate community.

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The 10 recipients of the Regional Minority Small Business Persons of the Year award hail from various parts of the country. They are expected to attend the National MED Week conference to be honored during the awards gala on the evening of September 24th. The honorees will be recognized for their dedication and commitment to excellence.

The 10 Regional Minority Small Business Persons of the Year are:

**REGION I**

Mr. Kenton Clarke  
President  
Computer Consulting Associates, Inc.  
Southport, CT

**REGION II**

Mr. Cleveland Hughes, Jr.  
President  
CHC Construction Group, Inc.  
Syracuse, NY

**REGION III**

Mr. Frank S. Islam  
President  
QSS Group, Inc.  
Lanham, MD

**REGION IV**

Ms. Irma L. Tudor  
President  
Analytical Services, Inc.  
Huntsville, AL

**REGION V**

Mr. Robert A. Dorr  
President  
DECO, Inc.  
Onamia, MN

**REGION VI**

Mr. I. Martin Mercado  
President  
Mercado Construction, Inc.  
Albuquerque, NM

**REGION VII**

Mr. Winford Hurd  
President  
Satellite Janitorial Company, Inc.  
Kansas City, MO

**REGION VIII**

Mr. Jim Bailey  
President  
Hardrives Asphalt Company, Inc.  
Billings, MT

**REGION IX**

Mr. Dev K. Shukla, Ph.D, P.E.  
President  
Innovative Technical Solutions, Inc.  
Walnut Creek, CA

**REGION X**

Mr. Miguel Garcia  
President  
MG Construction, Inc.  
Salem, OR

For more information, contact the MED Week 2001 office at 1-877-MEDWEEK or visit the Web site at [www.medweek.gov](http://www.medweek.gov).

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